

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GRENAD 00053 01 OF 02 192019Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 MCT-01
IO-13 OIC-02 TRSE-00 EB-07 AID-05 STR-04 OMB-01
/089 W

-----005996 192032Z /61

O 191950Z JUN 77

FM USDEL GRENADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0059

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 GRENADA 0053

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO ALL AMREPS

FROM USDEL OASGA

USOAS DEL 38

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORT, OAS, SHUM

SUBJ: OASGA COMMITTEE SESSIONS, JUNE 18, 1977

SUMMARY:

1. AFTERNOON SESSION COMMITTEE I LISTENED TO TWO-HOUR LONG
ATTACKS ON INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC) AND
US POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS FROM URUGUAYAN DELATION LEADER
AMB ALVARO ALVAREZ. CHILEAN REP MIGUEL SCHWEITZER FOLLOWED
WITH SIMILAR, ALBEIT LESS VITUPEROUS, COMMENTARY OF FURTHER
HALF HOUR. IAHRC CHAIRMAN AGUILAR ABLY DEFENDED COMMISSION,
SAYING IF GOVERNMENTS DEVOTED THE EFFORT ALVAREZ HAD APPLIED
TO ANALYZING PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS TO ANALYZE SUBSTANCE OF
HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS, COMMISSION WOULD HAVE LITTLE WORK
TO DO. MEXICAN AMB DE LA COLINA CONGRATULATED IAHRC
ON ITS WORK AND SUPPORTED AGUILAR'S VIEW IAHRC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GRENAD 00053 01 OF 02 192019Z

COULD NOT BE ASKED TO DEAL WITH SUBJECT OF TERRORISM.
GENERAL COMMITTEE APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION BOLIVIA'S
INVITATION TO MAKE LA PAZ SITE FOR 8TH GA. BOLIVIA
PROMISED TO PAY ALL COSTS OVER AND ABOVE THOSE OF HOLDING
GA IN WASHINGTON. GRENADA TRIED TO DELAY END OF
CONFERENCE BY DECLARING SATURDAY AFTERNOON HOLIDAY.
COMMITTEE II ADOPTED RESOLUTION ON US TRADE ACT THAT

MET OUR REQUIREMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. COMMITTEE I CONVENED AT 3:30 PM, DESPITE GRENADA'S WITHDRAWAL OF LOCAL STAFF FROM OAS SUPPORT. WASHINGTON-BASED SECRETARIAT STAFF WENT ON 12 HOUR SHIFTS UNTIL MONDAY TO FILL GAP IN DOCUMENT PREPARATION, REPRODUCTION, ETC.

3. URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR ALVAREZ TOOK FLOOR IMMEDIATELY TO MOUNT TWO HOUR DIATRIBE AGAINST INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AND US POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS. HE OBJECTED STRENOUSLY TO IAHC REPORT ON STATUS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN URUGUAY, REPORT WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN RELEASED TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, PENDING COMMENTS OF URUGUAY. HIS DISCOURSE COVERED VIRTUALLY ALL POSSIBLE ARGUMENTS, AMONG THEM:

--IAHC REPORTS SHOULD NOT BE PREPARED BY OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS (AS WAS REPORT ON URUGUAY).

--HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRORISM MUST BE CONSIDERED JOINTLY; SUBVERSION AND TERRORISM SPREADING DAILY AND MUST BE DEALT WITH COURAGEOUSLY.

--HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE HAS BECOME VEN MORE POLITICAL SINCE SANTIAGO GA LAST YEAR. URUGUAY IS BEING SUBJECTED TO A NEW WAVE OF CRITICISM ESPECIALLY IN USA. ACTIONS OF MANY MEMBER STATES NOT BASED ON COMITY OR INTERNATIONAL LAW BUT ON POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GRENAD 00053 01 OF 02 192019Z

--URUGUAY OBJECTS TO INTERVENTION IN AFFAIRS OF SOVEREIGN STATES BY US AND IAHC, WHICH ARE TRYING TO SET THEMSELVES UP AS BOTH JUDGE AND JURY IN CONDEMNING URUGUAY. HE ATTACKED US CONGRESSIONAL ACTION CUTTING OFF MILITARY ASSISTANCE WITHOUT HEARING URUGUAY'S CASE IN US SENATE; HE SAID CUTOFF OF AID VIOLATED PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION.

--PROPOSED SETTING UP PROCEDURAL STANDARDS AND SAFEGUARDS TO REGULATE WORK OF IAHC MORE CLOSELY. HE ACCUSED COMMISSION OF NUMEROUS PROCEDURAL ERRORS.

4. CHILEAN DELEGATE SPOKE NEXT, AND LIKE URUGUAYAN, ASKED FOR FORMAL PROCEDURES TO GOVERN WORKS OF IAHC. HE REITERATED CHILE'S PROPOSALS AT LAST YEAR'S GA CALLING FOR MEANS TO "PROMOTE COOPERATION" BETWEEN MEMBER STATES AND THE IAHC AND HE PROPOSED A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF MEMBER STATES TO OVERSEE COMMISSION'S WORK. THIS COMMITTEE WOULD DECIDE ON COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED AND WHAT SORT OF INFORMATION

WOULD BE RELEASED TO THE PRESS. CHILEAN ALSO ATTACKED
IAHRC FOR USING OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS TO PREPARE REPORTS,
FOR REFUSING TO DIVULGE NAMES OF INFORMANTS, AND FOR
NOT INCLUDING IN IAHRC REPORT ON CHILE ALL DOCUMENTS
CHILEAN GOVERNMENT HAD PREPARED IN RESPONSE.

5. IAHRC CHAIRMAN AGUILAR FOLLOWED WITH CLARIFICATION
OF STATEMENT HE HAD MADE DAY BEFORE. HE NOTED THAT,
EVEN THOUGH THE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM WAS THE PROTECTION
OF HUMAN RIGHTS, ANYONE LISTENING TO THE PREVIOUS
DISCUSSION WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THE PROBLEM WAS MERELY
PROCEDURAL. HE COMMENTED THAT WHAT HAD BEGUN AS FRIENDLY
GESTURE BY THE IAHRC -- TO INFORM THE GOU OF ITS DECISION
TO REQUEST AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT ON-SITE INVESTIGATION --
HAD TURNED INTO A BOOMERANG. AGUILAR ASKED ALVAREZ IF
THE GOU'S ANSWER WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IF THE IAHRC
HAD MADE A FORMAL REQUEST AND WHETHER THE GOU WAS WILLING
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 GRENAD 00053 01 OF 02 192019Z

TO GRANT THE AUTHORITY BEING REQUESTED.

6. AGUILAR THEN TURNED TO THE QUESTION OF TERRORISM AND
ASKED HOW THE IAHRC COULD POSSIBLY STUDY THIS SUBJECT
WITHIN ITS EXISTING STATUE. WAS THE IAHRC TO GO TO
TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS FOR INFORMATION--PLACING THEM
ON SAME FOOTING AS STATES? AGUILAR SAID HE COULD NOT SEE
HOW AN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY COULD OPERATE IN THIS AREA
AS IT WAS THE INDIVIDUAL STATES THEMSELVES WHICH HAD THE
RIGHT AND DUTY TO PUNISH CRIMINALS SUCH AS TERRORISTS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GRENAD 00053 02 OF 02 212232Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02 MCT-01
IO-13 OIC-02 TRSE-00 EB-07 AID-05 STR-04 OMB-01
/089 W

-----033555 212236Z /65/61

O 191950Z JUN 77

FM USDEL GRENADA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0060

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 GRENADA 0053

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - T E X T (P A R A 1 2 . L I N E S O M I T T E D)

DEPT PLEASE PASS TO ALL AMREPS

7. AGUILAR FINISHED BY ANSWERING ALVAREZ'S SUGGESTIONS OF IMPROPRIETY IN THE CONTRACING OF OUTSIDERS AS LEGAL ADVISERS TO HELP PREPARE IAHRRC REPORTS. HE COMMENTED THAT IF THE SAME RIGOR WHICH ALVAREZ HAD APPLIED TO ANALYZING PROCEDURAL PROBLEMS HAD BEEN DEVOTED GOVERNMENTS TO SUBSTANTIVE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS, THE COMMISSION WOULD HAVE LITTLE WORK TO DO. NO ONE WOULD BE SUMMARILY EXECUTED OR TORTURED.

8. MEXICAN AMBASSADOR DE LA COLINA TOOK THE FLOOR NEXT TO CONGRATULATE THE IAHRRC FOR ITS VALUABLE WORK -- NOTWITHSTANDING SOME MINOR PROCEDURAL ERRORS. HE MADE TWO BASIC POINTS:

(1) THAT THE RIGHT OF THE IAHRRC TO REQUEST PERMISSION TO MAKE ON-SITE INVESTIGATIONS WAS FUNDAMENTAL TO ITS OPERATIONS AND THAT, WHILE MEXICO WAS NOT WILLING TO GIVE THE IAHRRC A CARTE BLANCHE, MEXICO WOULD NOT OBJECT TO A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR VISITS TO COUNTRIES IN WHICH THERE HAD BEEN REPEATED AND FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND (2) THAT, BY DEFINITION, TERRORISTS CANNOT CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GRENAD 00053 02 OF 02 212232Z

VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS BECAUSE THAT TERM DESCRIBES THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL AGAINST THE STATE. DE LA COLINA ARGUED ELOQUENTLY THAT TERRORISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS HAD TO BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

9. ALVAREZ THEN HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS POSED BY AGUILAR. REGARDING AN IAHRRC VISIT, HE SAID THE GOU WOULD CONSIDER THE MATTER WITH THE CARE WHICH THE REQUEST WARRANTED. WHILE HE SUGGESTED THAT THE IAHRRC MAKE A FINAL REQUEST TO THE GOU, HE SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT THE GOU NOT ACCEDE TO THE REQUEST AND OFFERED HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT THE GOU WOULD NEVER INVITE THE IAHRRC TO VISIT.

10. THE SESSION CLOSED WITH A DISCUSSION OF THE MERIT OF HEARING THE REST OF THE IAHRRC REPORT FROM CHARIMAN AGUILAR (WHO IS LEAVING SUNDAY) IN LIGHT OF THE LATE HOUR. IN SUPPORT OF ADJOURNMENT, A MEMBER OF THE ARTENTINE DELEGATION STATED THAT HE CONSIDERED IT TO BE A VIOLATION OF HIS HUMAN RIGHTS TO HAVE TO SIT

IN A MEETING FOR MORE THAN FOUR HOURS. AMB MACHINE OF VENEZUELA, WHO HAS PROPOSED EXTENDING THE SESSION TO HEAR AGUILAR REPLIED THAT HE HOPED THE DELEGATE FROM ARTENTINA WOULD REMEMBER WHAT HE HAD JUST SAID WHEN CONSIDERING THE CASE OF DETAINEES FORCED TO STAND FOR 48 HOURS OR MORE. THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:40 PM.

11. GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING MORNING JUNE 18 COVERED A NUMBER OF ROUTINE AGENDA ITEMS. ONE OF THE MORE INTERESTING DEVELOPMENTS WAS THE SELECTION OF LA PAZ AS THE SITE FOR THE 8TH GA. BOLIVA OFFERED TO PAY EXCESS COSTS OVER HOLDING GA IN WASHINGTON. PANAMA SUGGESTED ADDING TO THE RESOLUTION PHRASE NOTING PRECEDENT SET BY BOLIVIAN OFFER TO PAY EXCESS COSTS, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GRENAD 00053 02 OF 02 212232Z

AND HIS SUGGESTION WAS ACCEPTED. THE GENERAL COMMITTEE ALSO APPROVED A DRAFT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR CONTINUED STUDY AND PREPARATION FOR A SPECIAL GA ON COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT. THERE WAS NO FLOOR DISCUSSION -- INDICATING LACK OF INTEREST. THE GENERAL COMMITTEE APPROVED TWO RESOLUTIONS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE HEMISPHERE. ONE, PRESENTED BY THE US, AT THE REQUEST OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION OF WOMEN (IACW) CALLS ON THE COUNTRIES TO IMPLEMENT THE REGIONAL PLAN OF ACTION. THE ORGANS OF THE OAS ARE TO INCLUDE IN THEIR ANNUAL REPORTS PROGRESS MADE ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN THEIR PROGRAMS. THE OTHER RESOLUTION, SPONSORED BY BOLIVA, CALLS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL CONTRIBUTIONS. IT WOULD HELP PAY FOR IACW PROGRAMS.

12. AT THE END OF NORNING SESSION, GRENADA OBLJECTED TO CALL FOR CONVENING OF 1ST COMMITTEE FOR AFTERNOON, ARGUING THAT THINGS WERE BEING RUSHED TOO MUCH, THERE WAS TOO LITTLE TIME FOR SOCIALIZING, MEETING SHOULD LAST 10 DAYS AS AGREED, THAT GRENADA WAS UNDER IMPRESSION NO MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY AFTERNOON, AND ALL LOCAL STAFF WORKING FOR OAS HAD BEEN GIVEN REST OF THE DAY OFF. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS SPOKE OUT STRONGLY FOR HOLDING AFTERNOON SESSION AND CHAIR RULED IT WOULD TAKE PLACE AS PLANNED.

13. COMMITTEE II NEARLY FINISHED ITS WORK JUNE 18. THE RESOLUTION ON THE U.S. TRADE ACT (APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY) IS PADDED BY TAKING NOTE OF DEVELOPMENTS AT LAST MONTH'S SCCN MEETING IN BUENOS AIRES AND BY INCLUDING A PAGE OF INSTRUCTIONS TO THE SCCN AND TO THE SECRETARIAT. THE FINAL PARAGRAPHS CONCERN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT AND REITERATE THAT THE SCCN CAN HELP INFORM MEMBER COUNTRIES ON THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. THESE PORTIONS WILL BE SENT SEPARATELY.

14. COLOMBIA SPONSORED A DECLARATION ON THE PRINCIPLE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 GRENAD 00053 02 OF 02 212232Z

OF COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE THAT WAS TOO CATEGORIC FOR OUR
SUPPORT, AND THAT WE MANAGED TO DETACH FROM THE TRADE ACT
RESOLUTION. THE DECLARATION WAS THEN ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE
WITH THE US ABSTAINING. COMMITTEE ALSO UNANIMOUSLY TOOK
NOTE OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF IA-ECOSOC.

15. REMAINING ITEMS ARE A URUGAUAYAN DRAFT RESOLUTION
ON THE OAS CAPITAL MARKETS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM,
AND A MEXICAN PROPOSAL FOR A STUDY OF THE EXTENT TO WHICH
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR CONSULTATION AND NEGOTIATION
(SCCN) HAS FULFILLED ITS MANDATE. FIRST RESOLUTION WILL
PRESENT NO PROBLEMS; SECOND IS AIMED AT GETTING SCCN INTO
INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL MATTERS, WHICH WE DO NOT FAVOR,
BUT SINCE IT MERELY CALLS FOR A STUDY OF PAST SCCN ACTION,
WE CANNOT REASONABLY OBJECT AT THIS STAGE.

16. INTERESTINGLY, SURINAM ANNOUNCED THAT EVEN THOUGH THE
PREVIOUS DAY IT SUPPORTED RESOLUTION ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS (INTENDED TO DIVORCE IFI'S AND HUMAN RIGHTS),
IT WILL ABSTAIN IN PLENARY SESSION. THAT MAKES FIVE SURE
ABSTENTIONS (US, VENEZUELA, JAMAICA, TRINIDAD, AND SURINAM)
AND ONE PROBABLE (BARBADOS). COSTA RICA, HOWEVER,
HAS DECLINED TO JOIN THE ABSTAINERS, AND COLOMBIA IS IN
FACT A CO-SPONSOR OF THE RESOLUTION.
MCGEE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GRENAD00053
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770219-0070
Format: TEL
From: GRENADA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770642/aaaabkgt.tel
Line Count: 309
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ce62827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2101873
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OASGA COMMITTEE SESSIONS, JUNE 18, 1977 SUMMARY
TAGS: PORG, SHUM, GJ, US, OAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ce62827a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009